

## The Washington Times

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## A NEW AMERICAN LOAN TO CHINA

The Continental and Commercial National Bank of Chicago has concluded arrangements to loan \$5,000,000 to the Chinese government. It appears that the loan is made by the Chicago institution—which, by the way, is the second most powerful bank in the country—without co-operation, syndicate, or other arrangements with the Eastern financial authorities. It is an independent transaction, in which Chicago assumes a place among centers of international finance because Chicago sees a field of industrial opportunity in the Far East.

Not the least interesting detail in connection with this transaction is the endorsement of it by the Department of State. The whole proceeding was submitted to Secretary Lansing, who wrote—

that the State Department is always gratified to see the republic of China receive financial assistance from the citizens of the United States, and that it is the policy of the department, now as in the past, to give all proper diplomatic support and protection to the legitimate enterprises abroad of American citizens.

Distinctly different, in tone and effect, from this Government's attitude toward the Six Power loan! It may be hoped that the new and broader view will continue to fix the Government's attitude toward American enterprise in the East.

## THE NEW MERCHANT MARINE

Stevenson Taylor, president of the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers, discussed the merchant marine problem of the world at the annual dinner of that organization, and pointed its lesson for America. Some of his calculations were astonishing. Mr. Taylor starts with the statement that normally, before the war, the world had about 50,000,000 tons of merchant shipping. Of this 5,000,000 has been destroyed, 12,000,000 has been commandeered for other service, and 4,400,000 has been interned. That is, just about 40 per cent of the world's salt water shipping is cut off, at a time when there is more insistent demand for it than ever before.

The situation as to shipping is, however, even worse than these figures indicate. The ships still left in commission are largely commandeered, in effect if not nominally, to serve the war needs of the fighting countries. The Great British merchant marine has been taken under control of the government. The sailings, routes, and even the cargoes of vessels are dictated by the government, because the very national life depends on the utilization of this great facility for the purpose of getting the greatest possible national strength from it. Trade in general, and the trade of neutrals in particular, must necessarily get secondary consideration.

American shipyards are constructing more tonnage than ever before; their orders cover their extreme capacity for the next two years; and before long their contributions will begin to be significant. It is the time for America, which has both the money to build and the business to employ ships, to press forward. And it is doing that.

## THE NEAR EASTERN CAMPAIGN

Monastir seems doomed shortly to fall before the advance of the Serbians and their allies in the Macedonian fighting. If the Bulgars lose it, they will be a badly demoralized force; for in order to take it the entente forces have had to pass through a country rough, mountainous, and splendidly fortified. If they could accomplish this, the great Macedonian plain, lying before them, ought to give comparatively easy going.

In their effort to steam-roller Rumania out of existence, the Teutonic allies attacked through the Carpathian passes, from Transylvania, and from Dobruja, on the south. There are three major fighting areas in the Near Eastern conflict; in Macedonia; in Transylvania and the edge of Rumania, and in Dobruja.

The Teuton plan doubtless was to crush Rumania between the attacks from Dobruja and Transylvania; to get to Bucharest, with one force or the other, as soon as possible; and after effecting a junction of these two invading forces, to finish reducing the country as fast as possible.

That the entente forces in Macedonia and around Saloniki would make themselves a great factor in this situation seems not to have been believed by the German staff. But just that thing has happened. These forces are now on the point

of taking Monastir, which means opening an easy way for a rapid advance farther northward. At Monastir they will be about 150 miles southwest of Sofia, and 100 miles away from the Bulgarian border. Their powerful and very rapid advance has compelled the Bulgarians to fall back precipitately. It has undoubtedly weakened the Teuton-Bulgar offensive in other regions, as is indicated by reports of further Germanic reverses in Dobruja, and also by the fact that the German attack through Transylvania is progressing very slowly.

Rumania, in short, is in much less danger than a fortnight ago; and Bulgaria, thanks to the sudden activity of the Saloniki forces, is in great danger. For if the Mackensen force in Dobruja should be decisively beaten, as present reports indicate it may be, and if the Monastir advance should be pressed against Bulgaria and the line of the Orient railway, there would be possibility of that tremendously important line being cut, and of Sofia itself being menaced. It would be a remarkable reversal if Bulgaria should meet the fate that was planned for Rumania. The campaign is young, and reports meager; but the heavy fighting on all three fronts indicates that some kind of decision is being powerfully sought by both sides.

## BELGIUM'S DEATH SENTENCE

The physical and human extermination of Belgium is evidently to be carried out by Germany with the same thoroughness that the civic and geographic destruction of its nationality was executed. The military authorities are systematically requiring adult Belgians to assemble at convenient places for examination and registration with a view to deportation. It is calculated from the terms in which these notices are couched, that 300,000 men are to be taken out of the country. This number, picked from the flower of physically perfect manhood of the country, added to the losses that war has cost, means the substantial depopulation of that part of the country under German control, so far as men are concerned.

Small wonder that Berlin was deaf to protests in behalf of those devoted populations in the Near East that the Turk systematically set about to destroy! Germany, contemplating the same inhumanity against Belgium, was not precisely in position to protest her ally's measures in Armenia and Albania. The thing that is doing in Belgium is not in principle more horrible, more barbaric, more emphatically a testimony to utter barbarism, than was the performance in Albania. But it will impress the western world more deeply, because Belgium is a splendidly enlightened, cultured, Christian nation; a nation that was no figure in the war, that was, indeed guaranteed by treaty against being drawn into such a war.

There is no possible excuse save military necessity for this move. One pretext urged by Germany is the fear that the Belgians may be injured by idleness and continued dependence on charity. But Belgians are being taken from useful, productive, and self-supporting employment. Skilled workers such as are needed in Germany are indeed the preferred class of victims. The whole performance amounts to transporting the manhood of a nation away into slavery.

Cynical and embittered, Germany makes no serious pretense of justifying the fearful performance. It is simply the Prussian way of indicating to what extent new horrors may be introduced into war, if the civilized world shall continue to dare warring against Germany. Of course, it will have precisely the opposite effect from that intended. Instead of terrorizing the enemies of Germany, it will give them the steepest purpose and greater determination that they shall and must win the war, lest they in turn be subjected to such treatment.

## A TASK FOR OMNIPOTENCE

Londoners awoke the other morning to find black walls and billboards plastered with appeals to pray daily for the success of their arms and cause. Doubtless many will respond, as many others have long been lifting the daily appeal to the Throne of Grace.

France, we are assured, is having a religious revival as a result of the war. But it was Germany which, at the forefront in every measure of preparedness, first enlisted omnipotence in support of its cause. Long before the war, when less forehanded peoples and cabinets were plugging comfortably along without realizing that they might need divine aid, the Kaiser announced the famous partnership of "Me und Gott." He has never indicated a suspicion that the junior member has become disaffected and withdrawn. All Germany specializes in reliance on divine grace—and the biggest guns and best drilled regiments—to help it win the war.

Russia is now behind the other nations in confidence that it is the very special protégé of divine interest. Nowhere can be found a fighting country that lacks assurance

that its cause is sustained by the blessing from on high. Not being engaged in the war, Americans give their thanks for the fact that they are at peace, and pray that they may be continued in that happy estate. They presume, too, that for their peaceable aims and aspirations they are entitled to peculiar consideration at the hands of divine authority.

There will be no doubt of the sincerity that moves people and peoples to presume that they are entitled to, and can get for the devout as long, the support of omnipotence. But the petitions involve a most disconcerting conflict of claims; and without doubt the authors of the prayers are right in supporting their faith by works which aim at the effective organization of the heaviest battalions.

## Don Marquis' Column

## Lullaby.

Sleep sweetly, infant, sweetly;

But ere "slumber chains have bound thee"

Yell, till we've gathered round thee;

Item: Pansy, the Rag Dog, an

aid both to slumber and digestion.

Item: William, the Rubber Goat;

Item: Warty Bliggins, the Cel-

lulo; Frog, guaranteed to float

in any bathtub, and eminently

chewable if one wakes during

the night;

Item: Evelyn, the Swan, and

Peleg, the Turtle, friends to

Warty Bliggins;

Item: Sam, the small gray Ele-

phant with the chewed trunk;

Item: Miss Effie, the Lamb with

the Squeak;

Slumber, infant—(maybe)—

But ere "slumber's chains have bound thee"

Howl till we've piled around thee

The objects of thy love

As catalogued above.

## THE KAISER'S RIVAL.

Sir: A place heretofore claimed by

the Kaiser seems disputed. A sign in

Mersey street, Jersey City, claims:

The Goldberg Wrecking Company,

Wreckers of the World.

—Hyper.

Yes, the tide set Wilkinson, beat-

ing with it the three Sams, Flot, Jet,

and Uncle.

## Subway Poetry.

Like a mole in its hole, so I go every

day

To and fro with the crowds in the dark

subway.

With the rattle and the roar and the

jolting and the jar

And the stifling air of the jammed steel

car.

—The H. L. M.

If the war lasts a year or two longer

food will be as high in Germany as in

America.

Mr. Percy Waxman contributes the

following, inspired, he says by a recent

Blurb, and he entitles it: Preface

For Sale to Any Publisher of Verse:

Not since the days of Ecce Homo

Thrace have we had anything with the

honey lilt of these precious poems.

What a Master of Rhapsodic passion

have we among us! How transcendent

as music he possesses! Ah! with what

deftness of hand he plumbs to the

depths of the human soul! What a

fragrant pulsance is his to detect, de-

cipher and depict the subtle emotions.

For him the Weisheit has become the

Gewiss.

It does not matter where you begin to

read, the thrill is the same. You realize,

as you allow each poignant phrase to

penetrate its purple path into your me-

dulla, that a new Homer has trudged

his way into your kernel!

Do not, I beg you, deprecate this pale-

ly limpid volume by reading it all at

one sitting. No, no, it is far too haun-

tingly rapturous for that. Daily with it

now and then, hither and thither, to

and fro, and off and on as it were,

and your reward is sure.

Read it backwards or forwards, it

matters not. A certain pervasive dul-

cetness pervades it, and each mem-

orable line is a gem. It is a rare

outburst. I don't know of any other

poet who has written such a volume.

For myself, I own to a positive

lust for that delicate Sevres-like cre-

ation which it is just a game.

Here the poet rises like cream of

tartar to the very pinnacle of dis-

ITEMS OF INTEREST  
IN AND ABOUT TOWNNews and Gossip of Wash-  
ington and Washingtonians  
Tersely Told.

Kupid Kroll still is at the old

stand.

Though carpenters and joiners

(not the kind Kroll serves) are

busy trying to

make a regular

building out of the

City Hall, Kroll,

the marriage

license man, has

not removed to

the temporary

court house in the

old Census build-

ing, and will

not until some

time next week.

I want to re-

main in this old

building as long

as I can," Kroll

said today. "As

most of my cus-

tomers, although

they very seldom

come back a sec-

ond time, know where the City Hall

is."

Then, again, you know how fickle

affection is sometimes. Any little ob-

stacle in the way of getting the

license quickly and having the im-

portant contract hastily performed

may offer sufficient excuse for some

of the uncertain single souls to refuse

to plunge into the matrimonial sea.

The marriage license clerk has moved

from the clerk's office in the City

Hall to a small room immediately to

the right of the main entrance to the

City Hall, and he will issue the neces-

sary marriage licenses there until

the clerk's office in the old Census

building is in shape to receive him.

## Lectures On Birth Control.

Charles T. Hallinan, of the National

Birth Control League, lectured last

night at the Perpetual Building Hall on

"Birth Control Movement and the Birth

Control Movement." Under the aus-

spices of the Birth Control League of

the District of Columbia. After the

lecture there was a lively discussion

of the general subject.

## Addresses Decease.

That there are 500 feeble minded

persons in Washington for whom no

adequate provision is made, was

pointed out by George S. Wilson, secretary

of the Board of Charities, in an ad-

dress before the diocese of the city

at St. John's Parish Hall.

## Sons of Jonadab Meet.

The memorial services of Pioneer

Council No. 1, Sons of Jonadab, held

at their local headquarters last night,

were attended by about 200 people.

Five of the present members of the

society spoke in memory of the de-

ceased.

## Ashlar Club to Meet.

The Ashlar Club will meet next Sat-

urday evening, at their club rooms in

Old Masonic Temple.

The musical program will consist of

the selections, "Within the Garden of

My Heart," by Alicia Scott, and "Cry

of Rachel," by Mary Tyner Falter, sung

by Miss Lavine E. Kroll. The piano

will be played by "Itumarcus," by

Dvorak, played by the well-known

violinist, Mr. Aldrich H. Moore. Miss

Brooks will be the piano accom-

panist for both artists. The Pettine

Banjo and Mandolin Club under the

direction of Mrs. W. J. Mooney, will

present a variety of songs.

Mrs. Marius R. Campbell will deliver

lecture on the Glacier National Park.

## Makes Farewell Address.

Dr. A. Elchorn, chief of the pathol-

ogical division of the Bureau of An-

imal Industry, addressed the Medical

Association of the United States Col-

lege of Veterinary Surgeons last night.

His subject was "Immunity and Bio-

logical Research." Dr. Elchorn's

farewell address to the students at the

college is to resign his post with the

Government.

WHAT'S GOING ON IN  
WASHINGTON TODAY

Today.

Reception and banquet in honor of Edward

J. Snodgrass by National Union, New Exhibit,

8 p. m.

Program, Treasurership Club of Master Masons

employed in Government Printing Office,

club room, 8 p. m.

Meeting, Mount Pleasant Citizens' Association,

Brown Betty Inn, Sixteenth street and

Park, 8 p. m.

Meeting, Biological Society of Washington,

Cosmos Club, 8 p. m.

Address, University as Related to Science,

Max Sausby, before Society for Philosophical